

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /031 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/IB:EMRABENOLD:MS
APPROVED BY THE DEPUTYSECRETARY
EUR - MR. HARTMAN
S/S - MR. LUERS
EUR - MR. STARLER
P - MR. BARBOUR

----- 030263

R 010005Z FEB 74
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY LISBON

S E C R E T STATE 021243

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MARR, PO
SUBJECT: AZORES BASE NEGOTIATIONS

1. PORTUGUESE AMBASSADOR THEMIDO PAID A COURTESY CALL ON ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMAN JANUARY 30.
2. IN THE COURSE OF THEIR CONVERSATION, HARTMAN SAID THAT THE SECRETARY HAD ASKED HIM TO ASSURE THEMIDO THAT, WHILE WE WERE EXAMINING THE PROBLEM CAREFULLY TO SEE ALL ITS RAMIFICATIONS, WE WOULD PROCEED QUICKLY WITH THE NEGOTIATIONS AND WOULD BE POSITIVE.
3. THEMIDO REPLIED THAT HE WAS GLAD TO HEAR THIS. LISBON HAS BEEN CONCERNED ABOUT THE DELAY. THE GOP COUNTS ON U.S. UNDERSTANDING AND COOPERATION. FOLLOWING SECRETARY KISSINGER'S TALKS IN LISBON, THE GOP IS OPTIMISTIC THAT THE USG WILL DECIDE FAVORABLY.
- 4- HARTMAN MENTIONED THAT, WITH RESPECT TO CERTAIN ITEMS, SUCH AS P3S AND SONAR, THE USG COULD RESPOND
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READILY. REGARDING OTHER ITEMS, THERE WOULD HAVE TO BE FRANK DISCUSSIONS WITH THEMIDO. BUT, HARTMAN EMPHASIZED, THERE WOULD BE NO DELAY.

5. THEMIDO ANSWERED THAT TIME IS AN IMPORTANT FACTOR. THE PRESS, AWARE OF THE AGREEMENT TERMINATION DATE OF FEBRUARY 3, HAS BEEN BADGERING HIM AND LISBON FOR INFORMATION. IT IS RECOGNIZED THAT SOME PROBLEMS ARE DIFFICULT BUT SOLUTIONS CAN BE FOUND.

6. THEMIDO THEN ASKED WHO THE U.S. NEGOTIATOR WOULD BE SINCE AMBASSADOR PORTER WAS GOING TO CANADA. HARTMAN REPLIED THAT THIS WAS NOT YET DECIDED ALTHOUGH THE SECRETARY HAD IT IN MIND. PERHAPS FOR THE TIME BEING AMBASSADOR PORTER WOULD CONTINUE. KISSINGER

SECRET

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